

Remarks

Claims 23-27 and 34 are pending in the present application.

Claims 1-22 and 28-33 have been canceled without prejudice.

Claim Amendments.

Claim 23 has been amended to cancel references to non-elected sequences and to specify that the polypeptide comprises the amino acid residue sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6.

Claims 25 and 27 have been amended to replace the word "having" with the phrase "consisting of".

Claim 34 has been amended to replace the phrase "defined by" with the phrase "consisting of".

No new matter is added by these amendments.

Objections to the Specification and Amendments Thereof.

The specification was objected to for including sequences in the form of tables. In response, the specification has been amended to delete all tabular presentation of sequences. Paragraphs referring to the deleted tables have been amended accordingly. A new paragraph correlating the peptide designations M1-M68, F1 and L1 with SEQ ID NOs in the Sequence Listing has also been added.

The brief description of Figure 12 was objected to for referring to "hatched" bars in the graph shown in the figure, whereas the bars in the graph are not hatches. Since there is no Figure 12 in this application, Applicants have interpreted this objection to apply to Figure 1, which does refer to "hatched" bars. The description of Figure 1 has been amended to correct this informality by referring to "two-tone black and white" bars instead of "hatched" bars.

No new matter is added by any of these amendments to the specification.

Claims Objections.

Claims 23-27 were objected to for being directed, in part, to non-elected subject matter. In response, claim 23 has been amended to delete references to the non-elected sequences.

Indefiniteness Rejections.

Claims 25 and 27 stand rejected under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112 as allegedly being indefinite for using the transitional phrase "having". In response, these claims have been amended to replace the word "having" with the phrase "consisting of".

Claim 34 stands rejected because the phrase "defined by" is allegedly indefinite. Applicants disagree; however, in the interest of furthering prosecution, the claim has been amended to replace the phrase "defined by" with the phrase "consisting of".

Withdrawal of the rejections under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112 is warranted in view of the present amendments to the claims.

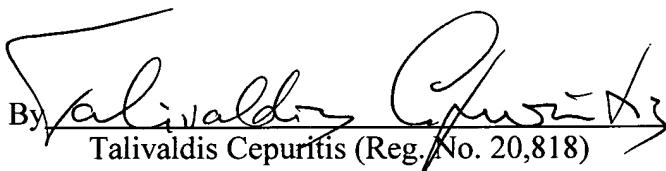
Enablement Rejection and Allowable Subject Matter.

Claims 23-27 stand rejected for alleged lack of enablement. The Office Action indicates that claims 23-27 would be allowable if restricted to the elected subject matter. Applicants have done so. Accordingly, these claims are deemed to be in form for allowance, along with claim 34.

Allowance of all claims and early passage of the application to issue is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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By 
Talivaldis Cepuritis (Reg. No. 20,818)

OLSON & CEPURITIS, LTD.
20 North Wacker Drive
36th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 580-1180